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## New and interesting Plants from Western North America.—V

BY A. A. HELLER

### ***Lepidium Idahoense* sp. nov.**

Apparently annual; stem 20–50 cm. high, smooth to the naked eye, but sparingly puberulent under a lense, somewhat shining, purplish below, much branched above, forming a corymbose top: basal leaves not seen; lower cauline obovate-oblong, about 6 cm. long, on margined petioles of 2 cm., laciniately dentate, the divisions ascending, sparingly covered on the margins and veins with whitish, curved bristles; upper cauline short-petioled or sessile, entire or nearly so, and finally reduced to linear bracts: inflorescence glabrous; pedicels slender, divaricate, or somewhat ascending, 4 mm. long; petals white, prominent, obovate cuneiform, slender clawed, about 2 mm. long; pods nearly orbicular, glabrous, 2 mm. or slightly more in diameter, notched; style very short, stout.

Our no. 3044, collected on the right bank of the Snake River, near Lewiston, Nez Perces County, Idaho, May 11, 1896, altitude about 800 feet. Later older and taller specimens were collected in gravelly ground along Hatwai creek, six miles east of Lewiston. The type is in my private herbarium.

To *Lepidium Idahoense* belongs no. 145 of Sandberg, MacDougal and Heller, collected along the Clearwater river, about eight miles east of Lewiston, in May, 1892. Their specimens were referred by Mr. Holzinger to *Lepidium alyssoides* A. Gray, a species with which it has no particular affinity.

### ***Lepidium simile* sp. nov.**

Annual; stem 30–35 cm. high, strongly puberulent below, less so above, corymbosely branched above, basal leaves 3–4 cm. long, obovate-oblong, pinnately lobed or parted in the lower half, the upper almost entire, bluntish, puberulent; lower cauline leaves much like the basal but narrower and more acute; upper cauline entire or nearly so, lanceolate or linear lanceolate: inflorescence puberulent; pedicels slender, 3 mm. long, ascending; petals greenish-white, inconspicuous, spatulate, about 1 mm. long; pods about 2 mm. wide, a little longer than broad, slightly notched, puberulent, especially on the margins; stigma sessile or nearly so.

Our no. 3044a, collected on the right bank of the Snake River, near Lewiston, Nez Perces county, Idaho, May 11, 1896, altitude about 800 feet. This species was associated with *Lepidium Idahoense*, which it resembles in manner of growth and appearance of herbage. The principal differences are found in the inflorescence, as will be seen by comparing the two descriptions. *L. simile* is also less inclined to branch, and the branches ascending at an acuter angle. The type is in my private herbarium.

***Ptelea rhombifolia* sp. nov.**

A shrub, about 2.5 meters high, branching above, the branches spreading, light brown, or grayish, the older ones usually smooth, those of the season's growth pubescent with short curved hairs; leaves trifoliolate, the petioles and lower surfaces covered with tomentose hairs, the upper surfaces also pubescent, but less so, and greener; petioles about 5 cm. long; leaflets somewhat rhombic ovate, or rhombic orbicular, the largest about 5 cm. long, and 4 cm. wide, their apices either rounded or slightly pointed, midrib yellowish, prominent, as are also the pinnate veins: inflorescence strongly pubescent, including the petals and the bases of the stamens; petals creamy white, obovate-oblong, about 4 mm. long; samara almost orbicular, about 1.4 cm. in diameter, reticulate.

My no. 1582, collected at San Antonio, Bexar county, Texas, April 27, 1894, altitude 600 feet. The specimens were collected in a wooded tract lying between the right bank of the river and the Southern Pacific railroad track. Specimens were distributed under the name "*Ptelea trifoliata mollis*," but can hardly be referred to that species, which has a more eastern distribution. The type is in my private herbarium.

To *Ptelea rhombifolia* I would also refer Dr. D. T. MacDougal's no. 139, collected in Walnut Cañon, near Flagstaff, Arizona, June 18, 1898.

***Microsteris diffusa* sp. nov.**

Diffusely branched from the base, 15–25 cm. high, often 30 cm. broad, pubescent throughout with chaffy, spreading or twisted hairs, those on the upper portion of the plant glandular: leaves all sessile, the lowest ones oblong-oval, nearly glabrous, the others lanceolate, acute, usually about 4 cm. long, and from 5 mm. to 1 cm. wide; flowers rather numerous; calyx 1 cm. long, the tubular

portion united by a membrane, the lobes about 1 mm. wide at the base, gradually attenuate to the mucronate apex, erect in anthesis, spreading, and more or less recurved at maturity; corolla pale violet, the slender tube barely the length of the calyx, the lobes very small: seeds straw-color.

Our no. 3098, collected near the mouth of the Potlatch river, Nez Perces county, Idaho, May 20, 1896, altitude about 1200 feet. The plants grew in rich, stony basalt formation in a thinly wooded tract on the right bank of a small stream which empties into the Potlatch just above the junction of that stream with the Clearwater.

Our specimens were distributed either as "*Phlox gracilis*" or *Collomia gracilis*, and are near to that species in most particulars. The corolla lobes, however, are much smaller, the sepals broader at the base, and the seeds straw-color, instead of light brown, and it is of totally different habit, being more like *Microsteris humilis* in that respect. The type is in my private herbarium.

CASTILLEJA LUTEA Heller, Bull. Torr. Bot. Club, 25:268. 1898

In describing this species, I referred to its possible relationship with *C. desertorum* Geyer, and through oversight in reading Hooker's reference to this name, made the following inexcusable statement: "As he gives no description whatever, and does not even mention the color, which is said to be the sole difference, the name is *nomen nudum*, and we have no other clue than that of locality." The color is mentioned, however, for the bracts are described as yellow and scarlet variegated. I have now no doubt as to the distinctness of my species. In the herbarium of Columbia University there is now a single specimen besides my own *C. lutea* collected by Professor C. V. Piper of Pullman, Wash.

### ***Crepis atrabarba* sp. nov.**

Perennial from an ascending rootstock; stems 4-5 dm. high, rather stout, covered with more or less deciduous wool, especially below, branched above: basal leaves lanceolate, about 20 cm. long, including the margined petiole, which is 5-6 cm. long, lower part of blade 5-6 cm. wide, deeply pinnately lobed or runcinately toothed, the divisions lanceolate or linear-lanceolate, some of them bearing slender teeth, the upper part of the blade forming a slender, linear-lanceolate, acuminate tip, 5-6 cm. long; cauline leaves usu-

ally of the same shape as the basal, but short-petioled, or the uppermost reduced to linear bracts: anthodia about ten, fastigiately corymbose: involucre 10–14 mm. long, wooly, the divisions linear, green whitish margins, costa not prominent, clothed with spreading, minutely glandular, black bristles; corollas evenly notched with five very short, blunt teeth; immature achenes light brown, apparently of almost even width; pappus longer than the achenes.

Our no. 3302, collected on the slope below Lake Waha, Nez Perces County, Idaho, June 22, 1896, altitude about 1800 feet. The plants were growing in rich, stony, basalt formation. In shape and cut of leaf, this species resembles *C. barbiger* Leiberg, but in no other respect. The type is in my private herbarium.

***Grindelia Brownii* sp. nov.**

Perennial; stems clustered from a stout, ligneous root, 35–60 cm. high, slightly chaffy, red or purplish, branching above, leafy throughout: leaves sessile, spatulate-lanceolate, acute, the lower about 5 cm. long, and little more than 1 cm. wide at the widest part, serrate with spreading teeth; upper shorter and narrower in proportion, and often entire: heads 1 cm. high, and little broader; bracts of the involucre lanceolate or linear, the outer shorter and narrower, recurved; achenes short, obovate, truncate, several ribbed, two of these wing-like; pappus of two awns.

Our no. 3418, collected on the "breaks" of the Salmon River, near the mouth of Maloney Creek (about Forest on labels), Nez Perces County, Idaho, July 14, 1896, altitude about 2000 feet. The plants were growing on a precipitous grassy slope, in granite formation. Specimens were, perhaps, distributed without specific name, or as *Grindelia squarrosa*, under which species it can hardly be placed.

Named in honor of Mr. H. E. Brown, who acted as guide during the day on which the species was collected, and greatly assisted my wife and myself in our work. The type is in my private herbarium.